Provision of Mobile Services in Chhattisgarh

†4507. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of BSNL's mobile connections which were working in Chhattisgarh State as on 31st March, 2004;

(b) whether the said mobile service has become operational in all Tehsil Headquarters and District Headquarters of Chhattisgarh State;

(c) if so, the number of THQs and DHQs yet to be provided with this service;

(d) the scheme for expansion of such mobile service in the State of Chhattisgarh;

(e) whether mobile connections of BSNL are available on demand in the State of Chhattisgarh; and.

(f) if not, by when the mobile connections would be made available on demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The number of BSNL's (Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited) mobile connections working in Chhattisgarh State as on 31.03.2004 are 32072.

(b) and (c) Presently Mobile services are operational in all 16 DHQs and 24 out of 97 THQs and BSNL plans to extend mobile services to remaining 73 THQs during the current financial year.

(d) to (f) BSNL has plans to augment the existing capacity by an additional 1.5 lakh lines during the current financial year and the connection are expected to be available on demand on availability of capacity.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.